

Friday Evening  
Nov. 22<sup>nd</sup> 1803

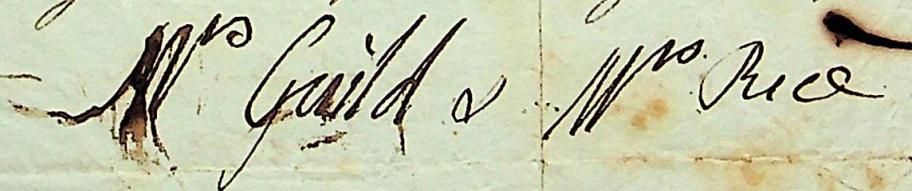
My Dear Miss Barker.

When I had the pleasure of seeing you on Saturday last, you mentioned the person who lived in Mr. Howard's house as a person who you thought would accommodate us comfortably for this winter, and I immediately negatived the proposal: the fact was, it did not tally with one idea I had previously formed, but I am now come a little more to my sense, if it is not now too late. Here we are alone and friendless - my Mother is old, I am lame, and Patience was this afternoon very ill, she is now better, but I look round us and say, who can I call to us, and who will come if I do call? I received a line from Mary Speakman this afternoon, to say the terms on which I can get our accommodations at Hopkinton, but my leg is not in train for traveling, I dread being stopped here, and wish to have some object to quiet that dread, more gentle than fording the snow in the middle of December: having put all this together, will you do me the kindness to enquire if we can be in your neighbourhood, and on what terms - and let me know as early as possible that I may be enabled to write to Mr. S. respecting Hopkinton, a place we should certainly have gone to, if my situation would have permitted.

us to have a sale first, as it is, it will be particularly inconvenient to go there, and return home in four months, which we must do if we go - I do not want any one to be a loser by us, but I would wish to be on as reasonable terms as we could, and in going there I think the want of society would be a drawback on the price. I don't now whether I express myself clearly: I mean to say that as the person of whose name I am ignorant cannot hold out the charm of conversation, though I would by no means take advantage; I should like to make a good bargain - excuse this long letter, which however I will lengthen by telling you that Mary Swan needs very slowly. That the rest of the family are well. Stephen and his wife, and Mary are gone to New York, and T. Speakman is gone likewise and now with best regards to your sisters I will bid you Adieu -

Sarah Footbeck

May I without being deemed importunate beg to hear from you early as possible -

Mr. Gould & Mrs. Rice